

Attorney's Docket No. 34770.004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application

of Woodrow T. Lewis

Inventor(s)

for METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING PARALLEL MEDIA GATEWAY

Title of invention

the specification of which is being transmitted herewith

OR

In re application of:

Serial No.: 0 / (to be assigned) Group No.:

Filed: Examiner:

For:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) and 1.10

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Date: April 25, 2001

Signature

Thomas I. Rozsa, Esq.

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(Information Disclosure Statement [8-1]—page 1 of 12)

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JC872 U.S. PTO
09/844572



NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
 - (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or
 - (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last."
- 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) each inventor named in the application;
- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b) - (d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(b).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections
and number pages consecutively)

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ FORM PTO-1449 (PTO/SB/08A and 086)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☒ Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. ☐ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
 - 7A. ☐ EPO Search Report
 - 7B. ☐ English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections 1, 2, 5, 10, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

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1 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2 Docket No: 34770.004

3 In the Patent Application of:

4 Inventor: Woodrow T. Lewis

5 For: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING
6 PARALLEL MEDIA GATEWAY

7 Attorney: Thomas I. Rozsa

8 Registration No: 29,210

9 Telephone: (818) 783-0990

10 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT--37 CFR 1.97(b)

11 TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

12 Washington, D.C. 20231

13 Sir:

14 Comes now the applicant, Woodrow T. Lewis, and pursuant to the guidelines
15 promulgated by the Patent and Trademark Office published in Section 609 of MPEP and
16 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b), states that at the time of filing the application on his
17 invention, he had performed a Patent Novelty Search and the following prior art was
18 located during the search.
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1. United States Patent No. 5,170,252 issued to Gear *et al.* on December 8, 1992 for "System And Method For Interconnecting And Mixing Multiple Audio And Video Data Streams Associated With Multiple Media Devices" (hereafter "*Gear*");
2. United States Patent No. 5,608,447 issued to Farry *et al.* on March 4, 1997 for "Full Service Network" (hereafter "*Farry*");
3. United States Patent No. 5,650,994 issued to Daley on July 22, 1997 for "Operation Support System For Service Creation And Network Provisioning For Video Dial Tone Networks" (hereafter "*Daley*");
4. United States Patent No. 5,793,770 issued to St. John *et al.* on August 11, 1998 for "High-Performance Parallel Interface To Synchronous Optical Network Gateway" (hereafter "*St. John*");
5. United States Patent No. 5,856,973 issued to Thompson on January 5, 1999 for "Data Multiplexing In MPEG Server To Decoder Systems" (hereafter "*Thompson*");
6. United States Patent No. 5,917,537 issued to Lightfoot *et al.* on June 29, 1999 for "Level 1 Gateway For Video Dial Tone Networks" (hereafter "*Lightfoot*");

- 1 7. United States Patent No. 5,925,100 issued to Drewry *et al.* on July 20,
2 1999 for "Client/Server System With Methods For Prefetching And
3 Managing Semantic Objects Based On Object-Based Prefetch Primitive
4 Present In Client's Executing Application" (hereafter "*Drewry*");
5
6
- 7 8. United States Patent No. 5,978,567 issued to Rebane *et al.* on November
8 2, 1999 for "System For Distribution Of Interactive Multimedia And
9 Linear Programs By Enabling Program Webs Which Include Control
10 Scripts To Define Presentation By Client Transceiver" (hereafter
11 "*Rebane*");
12
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- 14 9. United States Patent No. 6,073,160 issued to Grantham *et al.* on June 6,
15 2000 for "Document Communications Controller" (hereafter
16 "*Grantham*");
17
18
- 19 10. United States Patent No. 6,085,235 issued to Clarke, Jr. *et al.* on July 4,
20 2000 for "System For Parsing Multimedia Data Into Separate Channels By
21 Network Server In According To Type Of Data And Filtering Out
22 Unwanted Packets By Client" (hereafter "*Clarke*");
23
24
- 25 11. United States Patent No. 6,128,653 issued to del Val *et al.* on October 3,
26 2000 for "Method And Apparatus For Communication Media Commands
27 And Media Data Using The HTTP Protocol" (hereafter "*del Val*"); and
28

12. United States Patent No. 6,151,634 issued to Glaser *et al.* on November 21, 2000 for "Audio-On-Demand Communication System" (hereafter "*Glaser*").

Gear discloses a system having a pipeline comprised of a multi-channel bi-directional video bus, multi-channel bi-directional audio bus, and a digital interprocessor communications bus. The pipeline is constructed on a motherboard printed circuit board that additionally contains a microprocessor that serves as the local area network controller for the interprocessor communications. A software driver interconnects the multiple video and audio devices in different configurations in response to user inputs to a host data processing system so that physical assignments of the device communications on the pipeline are transparent to the user. In this manner, a media device's video input and output can be optionally connected to any of the video pipes of the video bus. Similarly, the media device audio inputs and outputs can be optionally connected to any of the audio bus pipes. The pipeline is equipped with a number of ports where media controller (microprocessor) printed circuit cards can be connected, thus providing a convenient method for connecting media devices to the pipeline. The switching is accomplished through a pair of analog multiplexers whose connection options have been commanded by local microprocessor resident on the media device microprocessor control board. The local microprocessor receives instructions for the pipeline switch interconnections through the interprocessor serial communications bus.

Farry discloses a digital switching network which accommodates a full range of

1 broadband and narrowband digital technologies, including video, wideband data,
2 narrowband data, video-on-demand and telephone channels in an integrated manner. A
3 Level 1 gateway is utilized to control access to all information resources on the network.
4 A broadband ATM switch, a digital cross-connect switch or other distribution
5 mechanisms may be utilized to interconnect information sources and subscribers. Optical
6 fiber connects information sources to the switching component of the network utilizing a
7 standardized transport stream.
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11 *Daley* discloses an operational support system which includes service creation
12 ,service activation and service control functions to provide on-line service activation for
13 video information providers (VIPs) and video information users (VIPs) on a video dial
14 tone network. The operational support system processes the remote request by verifying
15 the request data with internal subscriber databases, comparing the request with available
16 network inventory and provisioning network resources by generation requests to network
17 elements to establish the new service. The operational support system provides an open
18 interface for VIPs to remotely provision network resources by remotely accessing and
19 requesting changes in corresponding VIP profiles stored in the operational support
20 system, in order to add/delete VIP subscribers, update event schedules, and/or to
21 download billing and usage statistics. The operational support system also is adapted to
22 perform network creation functions including initial network configuration, logical
23 assignment of network elements, initializing network element systems, assignment of
24 work orders for physical interconnections, and performance verification of installed
25 systems.
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1 *St. John* discloses a digital system for providing sending and receiving gateways
2 for HIPPI interfaces. Multiplexers route the data and overhead signals to a framer
3 module which allocates the data and overhead signals to a plurality of 9-byte words that
4 are arranged in a selected protocol. Electronic logic circuitry formats data signals and
5 overhead signals in a data frame that is suitable for transmission over a connecting fiber
6 optic link. The formatted words are stored in a storage register for output through the
7 gateway.
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11 *Thompson* discloses a method and device for communicating private application
12 data, along with audio data (e.g., MPEG-2 encoded audio data) and video data (e.g.,
13 MPEG-2 encoded video data), from a first location to a second location. The multiplexed
14 packets form a packet stream which is communicated to the second location. The private
15 application data is either stuffed into a header portion of packets of encoded audio or
16 video data, or packetized and multiplexed with packets of encoded audio or video data.
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19 *Lightfoot* discloses a Level 1 gateway in advanced digital networks for providing
20 selective point-to-point communications between subscribers terminals and broadband
21 server equipment operated by a plurality of independent information service providers.
22 Routing through the network is controlled by functionality identified as a level 1
23 Gateway. The Level 1 Gateway is itself an interactive device in that subscribers can
24 input information and receive display information from the Gateway to define or modify
25 their own video dial tone service through the network. It generates menus of providers,
26 either as a function of providers available through a particular portion of the network or
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1 in a customized fashion specified by individual subscribers. It will also perform a variety
2 of functions including communications port management of transmissions of information
3 between subscribers and servers, processing of billing information and session
4 management. The Level 1 Gateway further provide a PIN number functionality, e.g. to
5 permit parents to limit which providers their children can access.
6

7
8 *Drewry* discloses a client/server system and methods for managing object
9 availability through semantic object "load sets". By associating a particular "load set"
10 with each object which might be requested by a client, improved object fetching and
11 cache management is provided. Each "semantic object" is packaged in a "storable,"
12 which incorporates dependency lists indicating the context in which the object is to be
13 used (i.e., with which dependent objects). With this approach, object availability in a
14 distributed object environment (e.g., the Internet) is improved. The related methods
15 involve the steps for managing object fetching and discarding on a per object basis, not
16 on a per page basis.
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20 *Rebane* discloses a system and method for delivering multimedia interactive and
21 linear programming on a large-scale network. The methods are for efficiently using
22 system resources such as bandwidth, storage and processing time to maintain an
23 optimally-performing system that results in minimal latency for the end-user's interaction
24 with the system. The stored program material is segmented into portions and each
25 program segment is transmitted to the receiving system component in less than real-time
26 on an as-needed basis. The system is designed to be hierarchical in nature in order to
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1 avoid the huge processing and storage requirements of a system utilizing centralized
2 storage and system control.

3
4 *Grantham* discloses a method and apparatus for providing a general-purpose,
5 multifunction, individually addressable, full-bandwidth bi-directional communication
6 device with built-in Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) capabilities
7 that connects a home or business user with ATM and other Switched broadband digital
8 networks in a convenient, adaptable, extensible manner at reasonable cost. The device
9 can be used in a heterogeneous environment and with different types of networks and
10 protocols. The full-bandwidth bi-directional communication and built-in AAA
11 capabilities of the device distinguish it from other "set-top boxes." The device supports a
12 Document Services Architecture and, in particular, supports agent-based communications
13 to ensure well-behaved communications and fair allocation of network resources among
14 users.
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19 *Clarke* discloses a system for parsing multimedia data into separate channels by
20 network servers connected to a network. The server process examines the information
21 packets sent from the service provider to determine zero or more of the categories that
22 describe a content of the information packet and labels the information packets with the
23 channel identifier associated with the respective categories prior to sending the
24 information packets over the network. The server/control function executes a process
25 which parses the information content sent from the service provider onto two or more
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1 channels and then broadcasts those channels over the network to a plurality of client
2 computers.

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4
5 *del Val* discloses a method for employing a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP
6 protocol) for transmitting streamed digital media data from a server which is configured
7 for coupling to a client computer via a computer network. The method includes receiving
8 at the server from the client an HTTP POST request. The POST request requests a first
9 portion of the digital media data and includes a request header and a request entity-body.
10 The request entity body includes a media command for causing the first portion of the
11 digital media data to be sent from the server to the client. The method further includes
12 sending an HTTP response to the client from the server. The HTTP response includes a
13 response header and a response entity body. The response entity body includes at least a
14 portion of the first portion of the digital media data.
15
16

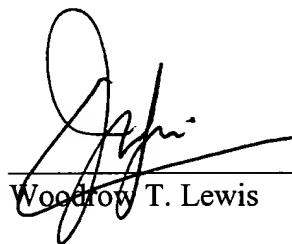
17
18 *Glaser* discloses an audio-on-demand communication system providing realtime
19 playback of audio data transferred via telephone lines or other communication links. One
20 or more audio servers include memory banks which store compressed audio data. High
21 quality audio data compressed according to lossless compression techniques is
22 transmitted together with normal quality audio data. Alternatively, metadata, or extra
23 data, such as text, captions still images, etc., can also be transmitted with audio data and
24 is simultaneously displayed with corresponding audio data. Furthermore, servers and
25 subscriber PCs are dynamically allocated based upon geographic location to provide the
26 highest possible quality in the communication link. At the request of a user at a
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1 subscriber PC, an audio server transmits the compressed audio data over the
2 communication link to the subscriber PC. The subscriber PC receives and decompresses
3 the transmitted audio data in less than real-time using only the processing power of the
4 CPU within the subscriber PC. The audio-on-demand system provides a table of contents
5 indicating significant divisions in the audio clip to be played and allows the user
6 immediate access to audio data at the listed divisions.
7

8
9 Each of the above-referenced patents is discussed in the background of the
10 invention section of the Patent Application.
11

12 Respectfully submitted,

13 Dated: 4/23/01

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16 Woodrow T. Lewis
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LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Woodrow T. Lewis
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	34770.004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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